IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

- 10. (Currently Amended) The eircuit connector assembly of Claim 1 Claim 14, wherein the first and the second thermoplastic materials are each selected from the group consisting of polyurethane and polysulfone.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The <u>circuit connector</u> assembly of <u>Claim 1 Claim 14</u>, wherein the core <u>element portion</u> is formed using an injection mold process.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The circuit connector assembly of Claim 1 Claim 14, wherein the core element portion is formed using a machining process.

Claim 13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A connector assembly to <u>be</u> coupled to an implantable medical device, comprising:

a core portion formed of <u>a first</u> thermoplastic material <u>shaped to receive a connector member for receiving a lead;</u>

a first circuit element positioned adjacent to the core element <u>and having a</u>

first portion extending within the core portion and a second portion extending

outward from the core portion; and

an overmold portion formed of <u>a second</u> thermoplastic material <u>adjacent to</u> <u>extend over and adhere</u> to at least part of the core portion and <u>at least part the</u> <u>second portion</u> of the first circuit element <u>through injection molding of the second</u> <u>thermoplastic material</u>.

- 15. (Original) The connector assembly of Claim 14, wherein the surface of the core portion includes predetermined ridge members to enhance bonding of the core portion to the overmold portion.
- 16. (Original) The connector assembly of Claim 14, wherein the surface of the core portion includes predetermined groove members to position at least a portion of the at least one circuit element in a predetermined location on the surface of the core portion.

Claims 17-19 (Canceled)

- 20. (Original) The connector assembly of Claim 19, and further including wherein the core portion is further shaped to receive a set-screw member loaded into the second receptacle.
- 21. (Original) The connector assembly of Claim 20, wherein the first circuit element is coupled to at least one of the connector member and the set-screw member.

Claims 22-25. (Canceled)

- 26. (Original) The connector assembly of Claim 14, wherein the at least one circuit element includes multiple conductive traces.
- 27. (Currently Amended) The connector assembly of Claim 23 26, wherein the multiple conductive traces are electrically isolated.

- 28. (Original) The circuit assembly of Claim 14, wherein the mass of the core portion is less than fifty percent of the mass of the overmold portion.
- 29. (Original) The circuit assembly of Claim 14, wherein the mass of the core portion is less than thirty percent of the mass of the overmold portion.
- 30. (Currently Amended) A process for making a <u>eircuit connector</u> assembly for use in an implantable medical device, comprising the <u>methods of</u>:
 - a.) forming a core element of a first thermoplastic material;
- b.) positioning at least one circuit element adjacent to the core element and having a first portion extending within the core element and a second portion extending outward from the core element; and
- e.) forming an overmold structure of <u>a second</u> thermoplastic material ever to extend over and adhere to at least a portion of the core element and at least a portion of the <u>at least one</u> circuit element, the forming of the overmold structure including heating and injecting the second thermoplastic material to form the connector assembly to be electrically and mechanically coupled to the implantable medical device.
- 31. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method a.) includes the method of forming the core element is formed using an injection mold process.
- 32. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method a.) Includes the method of forming the core element is formed using a machining process.

- 33. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method a.) includes the method of forming a core element includes forming ridges on the surface of the core element.
- 34. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 33, wherein method b.) includes the method of positioning at least one circuit element includes aligning the circuit element on the surface of the core element using at least one of the ridges as a guide.
- 35. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method c.) includes the method of forming an overmold structure further comprises:
- c1.) positioning the core element and the at least one circuit element in a mold; and
 - e2.) injecting thermoplastic material into the mold.
- 36. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 35, wherein step c.) further includes the method of forming an overmold structure further comprises heating the core element prior to performing the injecting method.
- 37. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 33, wherein method e.) includes the method of forming an overmold structure further comprises melting at least one of the ridges on the surface of the core element.
- 38. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method c.) includes forming an overmold structure further comprises encapsulating the core element within the overmold structure.

- 39. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein method a.) forming a core element includes forming the core element to have a mass that is less than half of the mass of the overmold structure.
- 40. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein methed a.) forming a core element includes forming the core element to have a mass that is less than thirty percent of the mass of the overmold structure.
- 41. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, and further including the step of positioning at least one connector member adjacent to the core element prior to performing method c.) forming an overmold structure.
- 42. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 41, wherein method a.) forming a core element includes the method of forming the core element to have a receptacle to receive the at least one connector member.
- 43. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 42, wherein method b.)

 positioning at least one circuit element includes the method of electrically coupling the at least one connector member to the at least one circuit element.
- 44. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 43, wherein method b.)

 positioning at least one circuit element includes the method of performing the electrical coupling by soldering or welding the at least one connector member to the at least one circuit element.
- 45. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 30, wherein the at least one circuit element includes multiple conductive traces, and further including the method of further comprising removing a selected portion of the multiple conductive traces,

- 46. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 35, wherein the mold includes at least one coupling member to couple to the core element, and wherein method e.) forming an overmold structure includes the method of coupling the at least one coupling member to the core element prior to performing the injecting method injecting thermoplastic material into the mold.
- 47. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 35, wherein the mold includes at least one coupling member to couple to the circuit element, and wherein method c.) forming an overmold structure includes the step of coupling the at least one coupling member to the circuit element.
- 48. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 47, wherein the method of coupling the at least one coupling member to the circuit element includes the method of suspending the core element within a cavity of the mold.

Please ADD the following new daims:

49. (NEW) A process for making a circuit assembly for use in an implantable medical device, comprising:

forming a core element of thermoplastic material;

positioning at least one circuit element adjacent to the core element; and forming an overmold structure of thermoplastic material over at least a portion of the core element and at least a portion of the circuit element, wherein forming an overmold structure includes positioning the core element and the at least one circuit element in a mold, injecting thermoplastic material into the mold, and heating the core element prior to performing the injecting method.

50. (NEW) A process for making a circuit assembly for use in an implantable medical device, comprising:

forming a core element of thermoplastic material;

positioning at least one circuit element adjacent to the core element; and
forming an overmold structure of thermoplastic material over at least a
portion of the core element and at least a portion of the circuit element, wherein
forming a core element includes forming ridges on the surface of the core
element, and forming an overmold structure includes melting at least one of the
ridges on the surface of the core element.

51. (NEW) A process for making a circuit assembly for use in an implantable medical device, comprising:

forming a core element of thermoplastic material;

positioning at least one circuit element adjacent to the core element; and forming an overmold structure of thermoplastic material over at least a portion of the core element and at least a portion of the circuit element, wherein forming an overmold structure includes positioning the core element and the at least one circuit element in a mold and injecting thermoplastic material into the mold, the mold including at least one coupling member to couple to the core element, and wherein forming an overmold structure includes coupling the at least one coupling member to the core element prior to performing the injecting method.

52. (NEW) A process for making a circuit assembly for use in an implantable medical device, comprising:

forming a core element of thermoplastic material;

positioning at least one circuit element adjacent to the core element; and
forming an overmold structure of thermoplastic material over at least a
portion of the core element and at least a portion of the circuit element, wherein

forming an overmold structure includes positioning the core element and the at least one circuit element in a mold and injecting thermoplastic material into the mold, the mold including at least one coupling member to couple to the at least one circuit element, and wherein forming an overmold structure includes coupling the at least one coupling member to the circuit element.

53. (NEW) The connector assembly of claim 14, further comprising:

a mold assembly having a bottom portion and a top portion forming an aperture having an interior surface shaped to receive the core portion and the first circuit element; and

a pin member insertable within the connector member, the pin member positioning the core portion within the aperture to be spaced from the interior surface of the mold assembly and preventing injection of the second thermoplastic material within the connector member.